under which JICA will prepare a feasibility report for the modernisation of the Burnpur Steel Works and the Gua Iron Ore Mines of IISCO. This feasibility report is expected to be submitted by JICA in April, 1987.

(c) In various joint forums, SAIL had apprised the functioning trade unions of the visit of the JICA team members in connection with their feasibility studies.

(d) The feasibility study will only cover the question for modernisation of the Burnpur Steel Works and the Gua Iron Ore Mines.

(e) No, Sir.

Development of Sikkim

1193. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that roads, bridges and water supply schemes under Rural Development Department in Sikkim are in bad shape due to lack of funds;

(b) if so, how much funds were allocated to the above department during the last three year, yearwise; and

(c) the areas of Sikkim covered so far under the above schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) to (c) The subjects of roads, bridges and water supply schemes fall entirely within the State sector. The responsibility for maintaining such schemes is that of the State Governments. Therefore, information of this nature is not maintained in the Department of Rural Development. Under the Centrally sponsored scheme of Rural Roads in Tribal areas, funds are released to the State Government on the basis of the percentage of area falling within the Tribal Sub-plan. For the first time an allocation of Rs. 4.72 lakhs has been made to Sikkim during 1986-87 and an amount of Rs. 2.40 lakhs has been released for a road work in the tribal area estimated to cost Rs. 10.50 lakhs. Maintenance of the road will be the responsibility of the State Government. Similarly, under Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Scheme (ARWP), which was started to supplement State efforts, the Central allocation to Sikkim during the last three years was as under:

(*Rs. in lakhs*)

1983-84	344.04
1984-85	379·39
1985-86	210.00

Maintenance of ARWSP schemes is also the responsibility of the State Government and no funds are provided by the Central Government for this purpose.

Women's involvement in Co-operative Movement

1194. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 3.5 lakh co-operative Societies in the country with a membership of about thirteen crores but women constitute only one per cent of it; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to encourage women to join the Co-operative movement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) There were about 3.15 lakh co-operative societies of all types with a total membership of 14.11 crores in the country in 1984-85. These included 3,395 women's primary cooperative societies having 2.67 lakh mem-